

## HOUSE BILL NO. 390

INTRODUCED BY D. VILLA

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT DESIGNATING THE WESTERN MEADOWHAWK, SYMPETRUM OCCIDENTALE, AS THE OFFICIAL INSECT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA."

WHEREAS, the western meadowhawk combats other insect pests, and in so doing combats the spread of diseases like West Nile virus; and

WHEREAS, the western meadowhawk is a master aviator of the Big Sky, able to fly forward, backward, sideways, and diagonally; and

WHEREAS, this dragonfly is native to Montana, predating all human life here; and

WHEREAS, to Indians the western meadowhawk symbolizes pure water and is included in Indian drawings of water; and

WHEREAS, in other cultures the western meadowhawk represents durability, adaptability, power, and freedom, all of which are apt symbols of Montana.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. State insect.** The dragonfly known as the western meadowhawk, *Sympetrum occidentale*, as preferred by a vote of Montana schoolchildren, is the official Montana state insect.

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 1, chapter 1, part 5, and the provisions of Title 1, chapter 1, part 5, apply to [section 1].

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